

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Michael E. Landry, *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/698,046

Filed: October 30, 2003

For: SPINAL STABILIZATION SYSTEM USING
FLEXIBLE MEMBERS

Attorney Docket No.: 5259-10800US01

Examiner: Cumberland, Jerry L.

Group Art Unit: 3733

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

The following information is submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 in accordance with applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56. This submission is not an admission that the documents cited herein are prior art as to the invention claimed.


The references submitted are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Review is respectfully requested, and the Examiner is asked to place his/her initials next to each reference listed on the form to indicate that the reference was considered. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(2), copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not provided.

Because this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits of the application, it is believed that, under 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), no fee is due in connection herewith.

23492

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Respectfully submitted,
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Form PTO - 1449 (Modified)FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
(Modified) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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5259-10800US01

SERIAL NO.

10/698,046

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT(S)

Michael E. Landry *et al.*

FILING DATE

October 30, 2003

GROUP

3733

(Use several sheets if necessary)

(37 CFR 1.98 (b))

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	INVENTOR	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	6,530,929	3/11/2003	Justis, et al.			
	A2	6,599,290	7/29/2003	Bailey, et al.			
	A3	5,647,873	7/15/1997	Ralph, et al.			
	A4	6,331,179	12/18/2001	Freid, et al.			
	A5	5,817,094	10/06/1998	Ralph, et al.			
	A6	US2001/001119	5/10/2001	Lombardo, Alan			
	A7	6,183,472	2/06/2001	Lutz, Christian			
	A8	6,520,907	2/18/2003	Foley, et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLIC-ATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANS- LATION YES NO
	B1	FR2796545	1/26/2001	France			x
	B2	FR2729291	7/19/1996	France			x
	B3	DE29810798	10/28/1999	Germany			x
	B4	EP01190678	3/27/2002	EPO			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)

	C1	Atavi Atraumatic Spine Fusion System, "Endoscopic Posterolateral Fusion," Endius Inc. (2001)
	C2	Medtronic Sofamor DA, CD Horizon Rod Insertion System, as described by: Kevin T. Foley, M.D., Department of Neurosurgery University of Tennessee, Memphis, Tennessee, Medtronic Sofamor Danek (2002)
	C3	Versalok Low Back Fixation System, Setting a New Standard for Low Back Fixation, Wright Medical Technology, Inc. (1996)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Form PTO 1449)